

Funding for Small Business Development

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Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in Havre

The Small Business Development Center in Havre, which provides technical assistance and support to businesses in Hill, Blaine, Liberty, Chouteau and Phillips Counties, is receiving \$50,909 for a continuation of its operations. “In Montana 88% of all businesses employ less than five persons, and for many of our communities small businesses are a better fit,” Governor Brian Schweitzer said. “We are proud to assist new and existing businesses as they grow and give so much back to all of us.”

The SBDC assists current business and prospective entrepreneurs by providing guidance for financial analysis, business planning, training, and marketing assistance. Tiffany Korb, the Director of the Havre SBDC, explains that their goal is to provide a friendly atmosphere where people can get answers to questions and solutions to common problems that come with getting a business off the ground. “Starting and running a business can be exciting, but also stressful. We really try to take a little of the pressure off by explaining to people that they are not alone,” Korb said. “What I really like about the counties we serve is that you see a strong sense of community among the different business. They understand that as one business grows, this helps everyone in our local economy.”

Commerce Director Tony Preite will be in Havre on Friday January 27th to present the check to Paul Tuss, the Executive Director of Bear Paw Development Corporation, which houses the SBDC. Tuss said the funding allows them to continue service to current clients, as well as future businesses. A portion of the funding comes from the Montana Department of Commerce, with other funding coming from the U.S. Small Business Administration.